

## **Proposal for Legislation -- 2021 Mandatory Reporters of Abuse and Neglect**

### **Return to:**

Sue O'Connell  
Legislative Services Division  
E-mail: [soconnell@mt.gov](mailto:soconnell@mt.gov)  
Phone: 444-3597 Fax: 444-3036

**PROPOSER'S NAME/TITLE:** Marti Vining  
**ORGANIZATION:** Child and Family Services Division  
**ADDRESS:** 301 Park Ave 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Helena, MT  
**PHONE:** 841-2400  
**FAX:** 841-2487  
**E-MAIL:** [mvining@mt.gov](mailto:mvining@mt.gov)

- 1. What is the problem or issue?**  
The Montana mandatory reporting statute for abuse and neglect (MCA 41-3-201) does not include individuals who care for children at camps, after school programs and recreation centers.
- 2. What do you want the legislation to do?**  
Include language that would make directors, employees, and volunteers at entities that provide organized activities for children – such as after school programs, camps, day camps, youth centers, and recreation centers – mandatory reporters.
- 3. If possible, please list the MCA (Montana Code Annotated) sections that would need to be amended.**  
  
MCA 41-3-201
- 4. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose?**  
  
No additional funding.
- 5. Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been introduced in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.**  
  
A federal Children's Bureau April 2019 document, "Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect," indicates that at the time of writing there were 13 states that include the above-listed individuals in their mandatory reporter statutes. The document link and list of states is located here:

[https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/manda.pdf#page=2&view=Professionals required to report](https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/manda.pdf#page=2&view=Professionals%20required%20to%20report)